

## Joint Select Committee on Research and Development

**LD 1528**

### **An Act to Encourage Funding for Applied Research and Development Relevant to the Maine Economy**

**INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROSEN	OTP-AM	

LD 1528 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to establish the Applied Research and Development Fund to be used for applied research and development relevant to the Maine economy. Under the bill, the fund would receive annual General Fund appropriations equivalent to one percent of actual General Fund revenue for the previous year. The bill also proposed to establish an organization responsible for making awards from the fund and created a 12-member governing board to oversee the activities of the organization.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-927)** proposed to replace the bill. It proposed to set forth the intent of the Legislature to provide the equivalent of at least 1% of total actual General Fund revenue of the previous fiscal year for research and development relevant to the State's economy. It also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill. Committee Amendment "A" was not adopted.

**LD 2287**

### **An Act to Expand the Maine Technology Institute Board**

**PUBLIC 541**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TESSIER	OTP	

LD 2287 proposed to add the President of the Maine Technical College System, or the president's designee, to the Board of Directors of the Maine Technology Institute.

#### ***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 541 adds the President of the Maine Technical College System, or the president's designee, to the Board of Directors of the Maine Technology Institute.

**LD 2297**

### **An Act to Appropriate Funds to Match a Federal Department of Energy Research and Development Award**

**INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KONTOS COWGER	OTP-AM	

LD 2297 proposed to appropriate \$750,000 for fiscal year 2000-01 to match an anticipated federal award for the Maine Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, a federal-state partnership to

build research capacity in 18 states that have traditionally received a low proportion of federal research funding.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-547)** proposed to provide that funds appropriated to match the anticipated federal award for the Maine EPSCoR Program revert to the General Fund if the anticipated federal award is not received. It also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill. Committee Amendment "A" was not adopted.

**LD 2365**

**An Act to Enhance Biomedical Research in Maine**

**INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KONTOS	OTP-AM MAJ	
BRUNO	ONTP MIN	

LD 2365 proposed to earmark a portion of the State's tobacco settlement fund to be used in the Maine Biomedical Research Program. Under the bill, the program would be administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development and would provide funding to Maine-based nonprofit institutions to conduct biomedical research.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-599)** proposed to clarify that program funds are intended to support biomedical research in the State. It also proposed to clarify that the formula for the allocation of funds must guarantee a certain minimum allocation only to eligible institutions that have applied for program funds. It also proposed to include in the group of eligible institutions those institutions that meet the minimum requirement of \$1,000,000 from federal or foundation sources by including funding that is received as a result of participation in biomedical research directly to that participating institution or in combination with other institutions. It also proposed to require recipients of program funds to submit any information required under a comprehensive research and development evaluation. It also capped funding of the program at \$10,000,000 per year. The amendment also proposed to add an appropriation section, an allocation section and a fiscal note to the bill. Committee Amendment "A" was not adopted.

**House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-976)** proposed to move the allocation of funds from the Fund for a Healthy Maine to an appropriation from the General Fund. House Amendment "A" was not adopted.

The provisions of this bill were incorporated into the Part II Budget, PL 1999, chapter 731, Part SSS.

**LD 2396**

**An Act to Create a Patent Program in Maine**

**INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SIROIS	OTP-AM	
KONTOS		

LD 2396 proposed to create the Maine Patent Program to assist Maine companies, inventors and entrepreneurs in the patent process.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-939)** proposed to change the administration of the Maine Patent Program from the Secretary of State to the Center for Advanced Technology Law and Management in the University of Maine System. The amendment also proposed to require the Center for Advanced Technology Law and Management to submit a report on the performance of the program by December 1, 2001. Finally, the amendment proposed to change the appropriation from \$100,000 to \$300,000 and proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill. Committee Amendment "A" was not adopted.

The provisions of this bill were incorporated into the Part II Budget, Public Law 1999, chapter 731, Part WWW.

<b>LD 2631</b>	<b>An Act to Amend the Comprehensive Research and Development Evaluation</b>	<b>INDEF PP</b>
----------------	--	-----------------

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
-------------------	--	-------------------------	--	---------------------------

LD 2631 proposed to require the Maine Science and Technology Foundation to prepare an initial evaluation of state investments in research and development by July 1, 2001 and proposed to change the date for each subsequent 5-year evaluation from the first day of each legislative session to July 1st. The bill also proposed to require recipients of state research and development funding to submit certain information on the research and development activity to the Maine Science and Technology Foundation in order to assist the foundation in preparing the comprehensive evaluation. Finally, the bill proposed to appropriate \$145,000 in fiscal year 2000-01 to the Maine Science and Technology Foundation for preparation of the initial research and development evaluation.

The provisions of this bill were incorporated into the Part II Budget, PL 1999, chapter 731, Part XXX.

**LD INDEX**

<b>LD 1528</b> .....	<b>1</b>	<b>LD 2365</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>LD 2287</b> .....	<b>1</b>	<b>LD 2396</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>LD 2297</b> .....	<b>1</b>	<b>LD 2631</b> .....	<b>3</b>